

EMERGING BEAUTY  
PRESENTS

# *A Queen's Meeting*

DISCOVERING YOUR POWER



MARCH 12 2022

10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

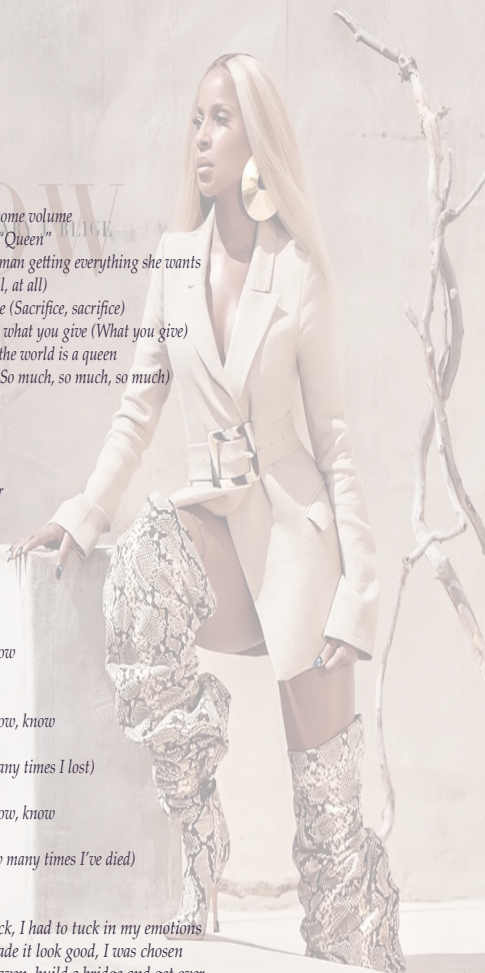
## "KNOW"

(Lord knows, it just ain't fair)  
Give me some volume, give me some volume  
You know, when hear the word "Queen"  
You automatically think of a woman getting everything she wants  
But it's not like that at all (At all, at all)  
See, being a ruler means sacrifice (Sacrifice, sacrifice)  
Most the time, you get less than what you give (What you give)  
So every woman and mother in the world is a queen  
Because she sacrificed so much (So much, so much, so much)

Gets so lonely sometimes  
Times I gotta clear my mind  
Can't stop walking on water  
Feels like I'm dealing at the altar  
Gets so heavy sometimes  
Carrying this weight of mine  
Looks like the seas are partin'  
So I might as well start walkin'

Oh, Lord, Lord, Lord  
They just don't know, know, know  
How hard I had to go, go, go  
To get through, to get through  
They just don't know, know, know, know  
Know, know, know  
How many times I lost (How many times I lost)  
Just so I could win (Ooh, yeah)  
They just don't know, know, know, know  
Oh no, no  
How many times I've died (How many times I've died)  
Just to live again, oh yeah

When life is coming at me quick, I had to tuck in my emotions  
I know He watchin', God, I made it look good, I was chosen  
Gone through hell to get to heaven, build a bridge and get over  
My snap-back's real, still thick in these jeans  
I ain't missing no meals





# *Emerging Beauty*

Emerging Beauty Incorporated is a nonprofit organization dedicated to empowerment, education, health and wellness. Through strategic partnerships and resources, the nonprofit seeks to advocate for the community and its members to “emerge” and be their best selves.

## **- Mission Statement -**

Emerging Beauty Inc, aims to empower our community through advocacy for identity, resilience and promotion of wellness.

### **Board Members**

Shakira Blackmon, President

Johnathan Anderson, Vice President

Bobby Harris III, Treasure

Laurette Allen, Secretary

Dawad Akil, Member

Dr. Ayanna Ibahim-Balogun, Executive Director

Ahmari Cameron, Executive Assistant

# Royal Agenda

## **Welcome/ Introduction**

Dr. Ayanna Ibrahim-Balogun & Rakayla Simpson

## **Prayer/Libations**

Dr. Ifetayo Danielle Osonduagwuike

## **Overview of Emerging Beauty Inc.**

Shakira Blackmon

## **Word from Our Sponsors and Queen's Break**

3M Creations, LD Botanicals, L. Norwood and Associates, and Savvy Beauty & Wellness

## **Poet**

Sheba Jennings

## **Introduction of Speaker BLU Educational Foundation**

**Guest Speaker** Dina Walker

Reflection of Empowerment

## **Word from our Sponsors and Queen's Break**

Congregation of Prophetic Engagement C.O.P.E  
and Remember Me Graphics

## **Songstress**

Annyett Royale

**Word from our Sponsors For the Love of Me,**  
Red Lotus Studios, Kiss Hair and Essential Excessories

## **Queen Box Presentation**



**Songstress**  
Annyett Royale

## CELEBRATION OF QUEENS

Queen of the Community Veris Blackmon-Larue  
Queen of the Community Linda Coleman  
Queen of the Community Edna Simmons  
Queen of the Community Carla Towns  
Queen of the Community Mary Welch  
Queen of the Community Felicia Jones

**Dancing, Fellowship and Photo Ops**

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## ENTERTAINMENT



Rakayla Simpson  
Host



Dr. Ayanna Ibrahim  
Balogun- Host



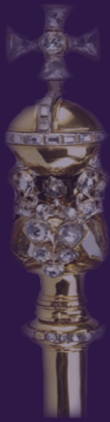
Sheba Jennings  
Poet



Annyett Royale  
Songstress



DJ Niara Nuru



## WHAT IS A Q.O.C?

A Queen of the Community is a woman who sees value in a person, in her family, and in her community. A queen of the community is a woman who is a powerful chess piece in her village. She has concrete values and knows her worth. She is the caretaker of her community. She is optimistic, constantly pouring value into her family, loves ones, and many who surround her. She is trustworthy and governs her village with humility. A queen of such value uses her wisdom and experience to build and speak light into the lives of others. She is confident and not prideful. She is beautiful but not arrogant. Real queens acknowledge that beauty should not come from outward adornment, but from within, which is of great worth in the eyes of God.

As a queen, she holds her head high, caring her torch quietly. Others admire her with much admiration. Her stature is well respected by those who encounter her company, being intrigued by her journey of resilience, bravery, and sacrifice. Many will seek her out for her advice because she will only offer the truth as she understands that a lie can cost a love-one everything.

Her royal position as a mother, daughter, or friend comes with great responsibility that can exude self-sacrifice, however, she ensures the safety and wellness of her village by maintaining a full cup overflowing with love, wisdom, and knowledge. She is not perfect, but she is crowned for being a conquer and a relentless leader in the view of those she presides. A community queen knows her worth is priceless, and her potential is limitless.



# Queen Speaker



## ABOUT DINA WALKER

Dina Walker, President & CEO of BLU Educational Foundation, has over 20 years of experience working with educational, government and community organizations.

She is an expert at building partnerships with families, schools, and colleges to increase access to higher education for underrepresented students. She partners with and convenes nonprofits, governmental agencies and educational institutions to support policy and system's change and the development, coordination and implementation of programs that reduce barriers to opportunity and improve outcomes for communities of color. Her efforts are centered on racial equity, with strategies focused on education, advocacy and leadership development.

She is now teaching a new generation how to be change makers through BLU's Institute for Civic Engagement, a leadership pipeline to help those who have historically lacked representation, move into places of decision making and positions of power.

Ms. Walker has received many awards for her community leadership, public service and educational advocacy. Currently she serves as a member of the Rialto Unified School Board.

Dina Walker has a B.A. in Education from San Diego State University and post-baccalaureate studies in Non-Profit Management from the University of Maryland.

# Celebration of Queens



## ABOUT MARY D. WELCH

Mary D. Welch retired from the Rialto Unified School District after over 30-years of dedicated service in the following positions: Teacher, Career Center Director, Work Experience Coordinator, Job Training, and Partnership Act Coordinator. She was awarded her bachelor's from the University of California Riverside in Sociology and Black Studies.

Masters from Azusa Pacific University in Educational Administration. Raised in San Diego, California, Mary makes her home in Riverside, California with her husband Oliver. She is a mother of five (5) and grandmother of five (5). An avid volunteer. Mary currently serves on the community organizations as a member or board member; California Retired Teachers Association - Executive Board, Membership Chair, Empowering Young Women - Member, President, Riverside Section National Council of Negro Women (NCNW), Chair - The Group, NAACP - Member.

She is also a proud member of Cornerstone Christian Fellowship. Another accomplishment of Ms. Welch is becoming an #1 Amazon Bestselling Author. Her published titles and journal series. "There's a Rocket in my Pocket," "Have You Seen a Red Elephant," "Saying No Nicely", "Save Your Home from Probate" Journal series "The Big Black Journal Series and many others.

After the success of her own books, she decided to teach others how to write and publish their own books. The following businesses were born; First Book Academy (teaching new authors) and Front-Page Publishing, LLC (book consulting). New authors can go from idea to conception if they attend both. Look out for her new books coming to Amazon soon are "Stuck in the Elevator" (based on a true event) and "Justin Lost a Tooth"

# Celebration of Queens



## ABOUT CARLA DENEZ TOWNS

Carla Denez Towns is a tax professional and the sole proprietor of Towns Tax and Financial Services for more than 30 years. She is a Registered Tax Preparer with the Internal Revenue Service, California Tax Education Council, and New York State.

Carla earned a Bachelor of Arts in Administrative Studies and Black Studies from the University of California, Riverside (1980). Carla studied accounting and taxation at California State University, San Bernardino, and earned a Master of Business, Administration (1996).

In May 2014, she received an Award for Excellence in Public Service from the San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors. In October 2015, she retired after 22 years of service with the County of San Bernardino as a Senior Accountant/Internal Auditor.

Carla has been an adjunct professor at California State University, San Bernardino (CSUSB) and taught accounting and internal auditing classes to graduate students. Also, she was previously employed with the Internal Revenue Service as Tax Auditor. Carla is a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated for more than 45 years. She currently serves as the 1st Vice President, San Bernardino-Riverside Area Alumnae Chapter. While serving as Economic Development Chair (2018-2020), the Chapter earned the Farwest Regional Exemplary Program and Service Honorable Mention Award at the 54th National Convention for implementation of the 2018 ECD program initiative -Financial Fraud Awareness Campaign: Money Smart and Savvy for Deltas over 62 yrs. and seniors.

Carla is very committed to social justice advocacy for the enactment of laws and policies to expand the rights and privileges to protect the most vulnerable amongst us. While serving as Social Action Committee Chair (2014-2018), the alumnae chapter earned the 52nd and 53rd Delta Sigma Theta Sorority National Social Action Awards- Farwest Region for organizing and promoting Social Action advocacy on combating voter suppression, health equity, violence against women and youth justice reform; and received the 52nd and 53rd Delta Sigma Theta Sorority National International Awareness and Involvement: World AIDS Day Observance Awards -Farwest Region. Carla has held other positions in the alumnae chapter such as Treasurer, Corresponding Secretary, and Internal Audit Chair.

She is the proud mother of two beautiful adult daughters, Ama and LaDaun, and a loving grandmother of seven. Carla enjoys gardening, traveling, Bid Whist, and completing 1000-piece jigsaw puzzles. She resides in Rialto.

# Celebration of Queens



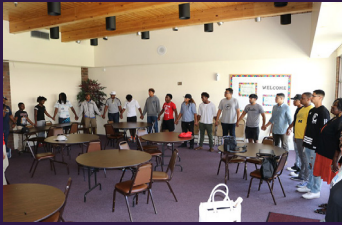
## ABOUT FELICIA JONES

Felicia Jones is the Associate Director & Chief Strategist with Congregations Organized for Prophetic Engagement (COPE) in San Bernardino, CA. In this role, she supports the organizations multi-issue racial and social justice organizing through campaign strategy, coalition building, policy advocacy, and grassroots leadership development. She has spearheaded and facilitated multiple collective impact efforts bringing community and institutions together to advance racial equity through creation of new institutional policies, practices, an investments in racial equity. She has also trained, mentored and develop community organizers in Los Angeles and the Inland Empire.

She has leveraged her network to cultivate philanthropic interest bringing over \$6 million in private foundation investments to the Inland Empire region

She currently serves as a co-chair of the Inland Empire Black Equity Initiative, is a regional coalition of Black-led organizations developing a shared agenda for policy and systems change to uplift black people and communities across the Inland Empire. As a co-chair, she also helped to establish the Black Equity Fund, a pooled fund effort and partnership between the IE-BEI and the Inland Empire Funders Alliance to strengthen and scale Black-led and empowering organizations' sustainability and capacity to lead systems change work. Felicia's other philanthropic contributions include, serving as an advisory board member for the California Black Freedom, design committee for launch of the Black Equity Collective, and founding member of Building Leaders and Cultivating Change (B.L.A.C.C.), a giving circle of grassroots donors who direct their gifts to support black led community organizations working on the frontlines of racial justice. She has leveraged and helped cultivate philanthropic interest bringing over \$10 million in private foundation investments to the Inland Empire region.

Felicia holds a Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts from Mount St. Mary's University in Los Angeles, California.



Congregations Organized for Prophetic Engagement (COPE) is a 501(c)3 faith-based organization, established in 2000 by a core group of pastors. Our mission is to "train and develop the capacity of religious and lay leaders in congregations and across the Inland Empire to protect and revitalize the communities in which they live, work, and worship.



#### WHO WE ARE

##### Faith-Grassroots

We are a Black led faith and grassroots organization in the Inland Valley region. Our work is led by faith, parent, youth, and community leaders.

##### Mission

Our mission is to revitalize the communities where we live, work, and worship.

#### WHAT WE DO

##### Build People Power

We build people power through leadership development, direct action, political education, civic engagement, organizing, and Activism.

##### Change Systems

We fight to change systems that negatively impact our communities. Our leaders shape policies and practices in their interest.

#### WHAT WE WANT

##### Educational Equity

We want equity to advance educational achievement and opportunity for all students, particularly those who identify as black.

##### Criminal Justice Reform

We want to end mass incarceration and advance systems that restore and rebuild our people and communities.

##### Community Wellness

We want accessible, affordable, and quality health and environmental systems that promote community wellness.

#### GET INVOLVED

1505 W. Highland  
San Bernardino, CA 92411  
(909) 887-3900  
[www.copesite.org](http://www.copesite.org)

Our General Meetings are held in the months between September and June, on every third Saturday from 8:30 AM - 11 AM.



Riegeana Boyd (909) 268-2270



## L. NORWOOD & ASSOCIATES

a movement building consulting firm



SELF-CARE FOR MELANATED WOMEN



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